

WEST VIRGINIA CHEMICAL SPILL

As West Virginia continues to deal with a chemical spill putting thousands of people's tap water at risk, the plume of chemicals is headed down the Ohio River.

The Mt. Vernon Water Works has been monitoring this situation very closely since the story broke Saturday morning. Mt. Vernon is an active member in the Ohio River Sanitation Cooperative, which monitors water quality for the entire Ohio Valley watershed.

ORSANCO has discovered that Powdered Activated Carbon will absorb close to 90% of the material. This is a material that we use regularly and we began dosing our influent water two days ago. The CDC says the chemical is safe as long as it is diluted to 1.0 part per million of water.

The plume will dilute even more when it passes through Indiana. The plume, which is moving South at 3.6 miles per hour, is currently 86 miles long and is expected to reach us around the 20th of January.

We will continue to monitor the situation closely to insure our residents of safe water.